

History Graduate Programme Newsletter

Vol. I, no. 3

November, 1986

Five Year Plan Update

In the last issue of the Newsletter submissions were solicited regarding a five year development plan for the Graduate Programme. Shortly after that announcement appeared the Department learned that it had far less time to present ideas about such a plan than had been thought. The Department Graduate Committee therefore convened in a special meeting of Thursday, November 6th, to consider a draft plan submitted by the Graduate Programme Director. The subsequent draft was amended, approved, and brought to the Special Department Meeting of the same afternoon, where it was in turn received and discussed. A final submission, based on this submission and discussion of the Department meeting, then went from our Chairman, Graeme Decarie, to the University Administration on 7th November.

Graduate History Society Executive

Late last month the Graduate Student Society of the Department held its organizational meeting and elected the following officers:

Emperor, Micheline Lessard

Pope, Ruth Burden

Merchant Banker, Marie Schell

All complaints, internecine squabbles, non-negligible demands, requests for funding and demands for parties should now go to them.

Deadlines Looming

Applications for Spring, 1987, graduation must(1) be completed and returned to the Graduation Officer in the Office of Graduate Studies by January 15, 1987. Forms are available at the Registrar's Service Office on each Campus (CC 214 at Loyola; N-107 at S.G.W.). Students who have not applied will not be processed for graduation.

Concordia University Fellowship Applications: due February 1st. (forms available in the Graduate Studies Office).

Applications for Teaching Assistantships for '87-88 due 31 March. (forms available in the History Office, SGW Campus).

Doctoral Thesis Defense

PhD candidate Robert Daley will defend his PhD thesis on Edmund Bailey O'Callaghan and the 1837 Rebellion ("Edmund Bailey O'Callaghan, Irish Patriote") on Wednesday, December 17th at 2 PM in H-769. The defense will be open to all faculty and students who wish to attend. The outside examiner will be Fr. Jacques Monet, Professor of History and Principal of Regis College, Toronto and author of The Last Cannon Shot, a Study of French Canadian Nationalism (Toronto, 1969) and other works.

Guest Speakers and Departmental Colloquia

- Nov. 28, 2 PM: Ross Dunn, 'Ibn Battuta, a Muslim Traveller of the Fourteenth Century'
Jan. 13, 4 PM: Graeme Decarie, Fred Krantz, Franziska Shlosser a panel on 'The History Curriculum: Future Directions'
March 11, 4PM: Cameron Nish, 'Pierre Laval'
March 23, 4PM: Ronald Rudin, 'The Caisses Populaires of Quebec, 1900-1945'.

All sessions will be held at the History Seminar Room on the Sir George Campus, rm. 205.

Student Personalia

Congratulations to Minko Sotiron, who passed his PhD comps in October! Minko will prepare a thesis proposal in the history of Canadian journalism, while continuing to serve as full time Editor of Concordia's Thursday Report. Dolores Chew and Fiane Shea (MA and PhD candidates respectively in Asian History) are both Fellows of the Centre for Developing Area Studies at McGill, and Dolores works part time as well in the CDAS Documentation Centre. The Centre, at 3715 Peel Street (tel. 392-5342) is a valuable resource for information on developing areas, open to the general public.

Anne McLennan and Mike Duckett (PhD candidates, Canadian) continue as editors of The Register, Canada's graduate student History journal. The Register draws its editorial board from eight Canadian universities in several provinces and comes out in March and September. Mike and Anne invite submission of articles and reviews which may be left for them in the History Dept. on the Sir George Campus. Hugh Brodie will be working in the Kent County Record Office and at the Institute of Historical Research over the Christmas break, and Micheline Lessard will be working in French archives during January and February. Both are MA candidates, working in eighteenth century England and twentieth century Viet-Nam respectively.

Faculty Personalia

Cameron Nish has written the preface to Alice Jean E. Lunn's Developpement economique de la Nouvelle-France, 1713-1760 (Les Presses de l'Universite de Montreal, 1986). Mary Vipond chaired a session on Broadcasting History at the recent conference of the Association for the Study of Canadian Radio and Television held at Concordia, and presented a paper entitled 'Broadcasting History in English Canada, an Overview'. Martin Singer, who returns this January to the Department after a lengthy stint in administration, has published a two-volume study for the International Development Research Centre: Canadian Academic Relations with the People's Republic of China. Ross Dunn's new book, The Adventures of Ibn Battuta, a Muslim Traveller of the Fourteenth Century (Croom Helm, 1986) has been made a selection of the History Book Club. Robert Tittler has been the external examiner for a Bishops University MA thesis on 18th century British agriculture and assessed a research application on witchcraft in Elizabethan Huntingdonshire. William Hubbard has contributed commentary on the recent Austrian for the elections to Le Devoir.

PhD Research Colloquium

As a result of reforms approved by the Department a year ago, those PhD students who have successfully completed PhD comprehensive since June 1, 1986 will present within six months or so an open colloquium on their research proposal before students and faculty. At least two such colloquia should be forthcoming next semester: watch this space and try to attend.

Graduate Student Workshop: 'Leading the Discussion Group'

At the Request of the Graduate Student Association a workshop on the techniques of leading discussion groups will be held on Monday, January 26th, 3:45 PM in the Norris Bldg. seminar room. The workshop will be led by Prof. Ronald Wareham of Concordia's English Department and by Mr. Martin O'Hara of the Thomas More Institute. In its more than thirty years of seminar-centred pedagogy the Institute has perfected a series of interesting discussion techniques which will be demonstrated at the workshop. Graduate students and faculty are invited to attend. A second Graduate Student Workshop on 'Making Application for Teaching Positions' will be held in February: watch this space!

An Open Ear

The Newsletter will come out again after the Christmas break. All news, announcements, personalia, informed gossip and innocuous innuendos may be sent to the editor at any time: Robert Tittler, Graduate Programme Director (tel. 848-2427). Best wishes for the Holiday season!